(b) Information is being collected.

Army Build-up on Indo-Myanmar Border

5892. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:
SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a recent step up in army build-up on Indo-Myanmar border;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government find a linkage between the army build-up and the ongoing China-aided construction of a major naval base on Haingyri Island near the Bay of Bengal; and

(d) the steps the Government contemplate to protect the North Eastern border of the country from military-backed narcotic peddling and infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARD PAWAR): (a) Government have received no reports regarding stepping up of Army deployment along Indo-Myanmar border. However, Myanmar Army has been conducting anti-insurgency operations during the dry season every year.

(b) and (c). Government are aware of the construction of the Naval Base on Haingtyi Island by Myanmar, with Chinese assistance. Since there is there is no Army build-up on the Indo-Myanmar Border, the question of linkage between the Army build-up and the ongoing construction of the Naval base, does not arise.

(d) The Government keep a constant watch on all development impinging on our security and take appropriate measures, from time to time, to ensure full defence preparedness.

Spurt in Stock Exchanges

5893. SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a spurt in the Stock Exchange in the country during the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified the causes for this spurt;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the flow of black money into the capital market is responsible for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e).There has been a steep rise in the Stock Exchange Indexes in the recent past. The Bombay Stock Exchange Sensitive Index rose to a level of 4285 as on 31st March, 1992. The increase in the prices of shares was mainly on account of expectations of investors generated by the liberal policy announced by the Government and the improvement of the over all economic environment. The low floating stock in the market and the excess of funds flowing into the stock market including the investment of unaccounted money also contributed to this increase.

Registration of BRITCO

5894. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a company under the nomenclature 'BRITCO' has been registered in India; and

(b) if so, when it was registered and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARMANGLAM): (a) and (b). No company under the name of 'BRITCO' only is registered in India under the Companies Act, 1956. However, a company under the nomenclatures Britco Foods Company Private Ltd., was registered on 20th February, 1992 with the Registrar of Companies Maharashtra, Bombay. The authorised Office of the company is at 42, Turf View, Dr. A.B. Road, Worli, Bombay-18.

Powerloom Service Centre at Banglore

5895. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Powerloom Service Centre at Bangalore;

(b) if so, the proposed centre would provide training on loom mechanism and maintenance;

(c) the number of persons likely to be given training every year in the said center;

(d) whether land and buildings and other infrastructures have been procured; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) About 150 persons every year.

(d) and (e). Not yet as this Centre has been sanctioned only recently.

Duty on Imported Raw Materials

5896. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow the imported raw materials to be warehoused in India without payment of duty by foreign suppliers at heir own cost which would later be sold to the Indian buyers for their use in manufacture of goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). A few proposals have been received on behalf of foreign suppliers for import of raw wool and certain spare parts which would be initially stored in bond for subsequent clearance and sale to local consumers according to their requirements. Ready availability of these goods to local consumers and economy in costs are claimed to be the major advantages.

[*Translation*]

Pension to widows of Second world War Personnel

5897. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: